

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 04401 021640Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 L-03
NSC-05 NRC-05 OES-07 FEAE-00 DODE-00 ERDA-05
PM-04 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 /127 W
-----021752Z 095413 /43

O R 021620Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3671
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
IAEA VIENNA 2224
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 4401

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, MNUC, EEC
SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION PRESS BRIEFING ON MISSING URANIUM

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE EC COMMISSION PRESS SPOKESMAN
READ A PREPARED STATEMENT AT THE NOON BRIEFING MAY 2 CONFIRM-
ING PRESS REPORTS THAT, AT THE END OF 1968, 200 METRIC TONS
OF NATURAL URANIUM OXIDE HAD DISAPPEARED WHILE IN TRANSIT
BETWEEN ANTWERP AND GENOA. THE RESPONSIBLE SERVICES OF
EURATOM AND THOSE OF GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM AND
ITALY CONDUCTED AN INQUIRY BUT THE URANIUM WAS NEVER RE-
COVERED. SINCE 1968, CONTROL PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN GREATLY
REINFORMCED AND NO FURTHER LOSSES OF URANIUM HAVE OCCURRED.

2. THE SPOKESMAN AVOIDED MANY QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND
REFUSED TO IDENTIFY THE ORIGIN OF THE URANIUM EXCEPT TO
AFFIRM THAT IT WAS NOT OF AMERICAN OR GERMAN ORIGIN. HE
NOTED THAT IT HAD COME FROM A STOCK IN GERMANY AND HAD
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 04401 021640Z

PASSED THROUGH ROTTERDAM ON ITS WAY TO ANTWERP. HE
ADDED THAT THE US GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN KEPT FULLY INFORMED
IN THE COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE
TIES BETWEEN THE EC AND THE US ON NUCLEAR MATTERS; SUCH
COORDINATION WAS NOT REQUIRED BY FORMAL EC-US NUCLEAR
AGREEMENTS. HE SAID THE REPORTERS WOULD HAVE TO DRAW
THEIR OWN CONCLUSIONS WHEN THEY SUGGESTED THAT THE US

WAS THE ONLY FREINDLY COUNTRY THE EC KEPT INFORMED ON
THIS LOSS BECAUSE IT WISHED TO OBTAIN THE ASSISTANCE
OF US INTELLIGENCE SERVICES. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LOU. THE DIRECTOR OF THE EURATOM NUCLEAR
SUPPLY AGENCY BELIEVES THIS STORY HAS BEEN RELEASED AT
THIS PARTICULAR TIME BY SPONSORS OF THE ANTI-NUCLEAR
CONFERENCE WHICH TOOK PLACE IN SALZBURG BEFORE THE
IAEA-SPONSORED CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR POWER IN ORDER
TO HIGHLIGHT THE DANGERS OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. HE BE-
LEVES THE INFORMATION ON THE LOSS COULD HAVE BEEN
OBTAINED FROM CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS AT
THE TIME OF A SPECIAL HEARING IN THE HOUSE ON THE LOST
URANIUM IN EARLY 1976. END LOU.HINTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, URANIUM, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU04401
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: UPGRADED PER MEMO P840091-0058
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840091-0059, D770153-0502
Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197705104/aaaadmoy.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4247e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2334321
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION PRESS BRIEFING ON MISSING URANIUM
TAGS: ENRG, MNUC, EEC
To: STATE EC CAPITALS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4247e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009